

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING**

**September 8, 2014**

Present: Commissioners Farrah Chaichi, Jeni Felker, Esther Griffin, Anna Petrov, Sheri Struk, Juanita Villarreal, Alternate Commissioner Manijeh Mehrnoosh, Ex-Officio Police Chief Spalding, City Council Liaison Ian King and City Staff Liaisons Bob Crocker and Carmin Ruiz.

Absent: Commissioners Kim Lawler, Griffith Masters, Shannon Younce, Alternate Commissioners Jamal AbuSneineh and William Encinas.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

The purpose for this special meeting was to continue a very involved discussion about the summer's conflict between the governments of Israel and Gaza that began at the August HRAC meeting and which there was not time at that meeting to satisfactorily conclude. The commissioners desired an additional meeting to continue the discussion and determine the best way to express their feelings about this conflict to the City Council of Beaverton.

Commissioner Griffin led a discussion of rules and expectations for the meeting and various commissioners expressed their thoughts about this topic. The role of the commission in expressing neutrality was also discussed. HRAC addressed how, when presenting publicly before the City Council, the Commission does not want to take sides and thereby alienate any city residents. Councilor King provided background information about how the City is currently addressing questions about issues that do not expressly involve residents of Beaverton.

Commissioners discussed the current conflict going on in the Middle East, particularly regarding the Israel/Gaza situation and what actions HRAC can take as a city commission. Many commissioners expressed their feelings and opinions on this issue. Commissioner Griffin reminded commission members that, as individual Beaverton residents, HRAC members are able to participate in other actions that HRAC as a body cannot.

Following the time of discussion, commissioners engaged in a work session during which a proposal to be presented to City Council was reviewed. Commissioners provided feedback about the proposal and feedback was incorporated into the document. Commissioner Griffin will send out an email with a revised version of the presentation to all commissioners and alternate commissioners to see if it accurately reflects what the commission wants it to say. The proposal will be voted on at the next regular HRAC meeting on October 1, 2014, and will be read during the guest comments period at a city council meeting later in October.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Struk and seconded by Commissioner Felker. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.